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Britton ayant eu l'obligeance de me communiquer le No. 253 de l'exs. R. Spruce et un calque des dessins de Mitten pris sur le type (Quito, leg. Jameson), j'ai pu me rendre compte que ma plante n'était pas identique à l'espèce de Mitten. Elle en est évidemment fort voisine, mais les différences que j'ai constatées sont, à mon avis, assez importantes pour l'en séparer spécifiquement.

Elle s'en distingue, en effet, par ses feuilles caulinaires plus petites (0.7–0.8 mm. sur 0.2 mm. au lieu de 1 mm. sur 0.3 mm.); par le tissu plus serré (les cellules moyennes ont 10–12 μ de large, celles du *L. Wilsoni* atteignent 15–18 μ); par la capsule brusquement contractée en un col subcylindrique plus long que le sporange, tandis que celle du *L. Wilsoni* est insensiblement atténuée en un col conique d'égale longueur; par l'opercule plan-convexe, non apiculé, alors qu'il est conique chez l'autre espèce; enfin par l'anneau plus élevé, les dents du péristome externe plus larges et par la présence de cils au péristome interne.

Je n'ai pas pu constater moi-même si le péristome du *L. Wilsoni* est dépourvu de cils, mais je pense cependant qu'il en est ainsi parce que Mitten n'en parle pas dans sa description, et surtout parce que ses dessins représentent un péristome interne avec la membrane et les lanières sans trace de cils.

FONTAINE LA MALLET, FRANCE.

NOTE ON A FORM OF *POTTIA HEIMII* FROM GREENLAND

H. N. DIXON

In 1921 Prof. A. C. Seward, of Cambridge University, was visiting Greenland, and collected a number of mosses, which he sent to me for identification. The bulk of them consisted of interesting but well known arctic and sub-arctic forms; but a *Pottia* from Ata, West Greenland, about 70 degrees north latitude, deserves special mention. The habit, the long, glossy, pale reddish setae, etc., were characteristic of *P. Heimii* Fuernr., but the leaves were nearly entire, obtuse, with the margin frequently recurved, the capsules very short and wide, the lid remarkably short, only very slightly rostellate, and frequently simply apiculate, and the capsules being then only just mature there was no indication of systyly. (After lying in the herbarium, however, for some months, the capsules have contracted in width and become more elongated, while the lid had become detached at the rim and shows constant systyly). It became clear that the moss was a form of *P. Heimii*, and the question arose to which of the numerous varieties of that species it should be referred. I consulted Mr. E. B. Chamberlain on the matter, and he very kindly went into the question with great care; but the ultimate conclusion at which he and I arrived was that it could not be placed under any known variety. Not that it did not possess the characters of any, but rather that it assumed the characters of all! Or, more accurately, that being apparently of an eclectic turn of mind, it had selected a salient character from one, another from another, while rejecting correlated characters in each; and with a true catholicity refused to be bound down to any single denomination! Moreover, it

quite declined to submit to any cut and dried rules of morphology even for its own characters; the leaf margins were sometimes erect, sometimes recurved; usually entire or nearly so, but here and there subdenticulate, and generally showing some signs pointing that way, as if, as Mr. Chamberlain suggests, they were "cutting their teeth." The apex was mostly very obtuse, but here and there tapering, the cell structure equally variable, often showing distinct traces of a border, but very frequently (on the same stem) without any; in fact the plant showed in all directions a callous disregard for the convenience of taxonomists.

Pottia Heimii var. *behringiana* Card. & Thér. has the same short capsule, bluntish leaves, and tendency to a border, but the leaves are normally toothed and less obtuse. *P. heimioides* Kindb. has the leaves short and obtuse, but the capsule longer and cylindric, &c. *P. Heimii* var. *obtusifolia* (R. Br.) Hag. (Syn. *P. Ryani* Philib.) is perhaps the nearest form, but that very marked plant has broader and shorter leaves, with plane margins, with more abbreviated characters generally of both gametophyte and sporophyte. On the whole it appears better to consider the *Ata* plant as a remarkable form of *P. Heimii* with a considerable approach to var. *obtusifolia* (R. Br.) Hag.

NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND

NOTES

A recent issue of the *Revue bryologique* reports the death, in January, 1921, of Sign. Egidio Corti, who was a member of the Sullivant Moss Society from 1909 to 1916. Sign. Corti was a critical student of the Italian mosses, and had also investigated those of Ecuador. We understand his herbarium is for sale.

The same issue of the *Revue* mentions the death of L'abbe Faurie, well known for his explorations in Japan and Corea. No details are given.

We are informed that the Zoologisch-botanische Gesellschaft of Vienna is prepared to sell a collection containing some 12,000 specimens of mosses, more than 1,000 species of European material, all well prepared specimens collected by such bryologists, among others, as Schimper, Wilson, Lindberg, Juratzka, Molendo, etc. There are also many numbers from old and rare Exsiccati, e.g. *Bryotheca Europaea*. Offers should be sent directly to Dr. Hans Neumeyer, Secretary, at Mechelgasse 3. Wein, III/3, Austria.

Fascicle Nineteen of Mr. John M. Holzinger's *Musci Acrocarpi Boreali-Americani*, sent out May 19th 1922, appears hard on the heels of the eighteenth fascicle, which was noticed in the March, 1922, issue of THE BRYOLOGIST. As will be seen from the subjoined list, the specimens come mainly from the West and South; three numbers represent European collections, which we trust may in time be supplemented with American material. Number 452, *Amphidium Mougeotii*, is from the type locality; number 473 is a portion of Ravenel's original collection. If we might suggest, the completion of this important series of North American mosses can be very greatly aided and hastened if collectors and students will send to Mr. Holzinger for lists of species already issued. Such a course will